

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 1-39 (canceled)

Claim 40 (previously presented): A method comprising:

engaging a sole of a foot against a thermal imaging device to obtain from the device a thermal image of the sole, the imaging device including a thermally sensitive material, that exhibits a change in color with a change in temperature, lying flat over a rigid surface that prevents the material from bending when the sole is engaged against the device; and  
determining a characteristic of the sole based on the thermal image.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 40 wherein the engaging step includes standing on the imaging device.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The method of claim 40 wherein the characteristic is an arch height of the sole.

Claim 43-45 (canceled)

Claim 46 (previously presented): A method comprising:

warming a thermally sensitive material to a temperature that is warmer than a sole of a foot, the material being part of a thermal imaging device and configured to exhibit a change in color with a change in temperature;

engaging the sole against the device to obtain from the material a thermal image of the sole based on different locations on the material being cooled by the sole to different extents; and  
determining a characteristic of the sole based on the thermal image.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The method of claim 46 wherein the characteristic is an arch height of the sole.

Claim 48-54 (canceled)